

May 10, 1951

MEMORANDUM

TO: P - Mr. Southworth
FROM: PCB - W. P. Davison
SUBJECT: Director for New PSB

As I remarked to you yesterday, several people present at the meeting to discuss PSB plans last Tuesday felt that Alfred Loomis would be an excellent candidate for Director.

I checked with Hans Speier, who knows Loomis fairly well, about this and got the following report:

Speier has a high opinion of Loomis and believes he would do an excellent job if he were willing to take the position. Speier believes, however, that Loomis prefers to remain a free agent and would not want to tie himself down with specific administrative duties. He added that Loomis has a thorough knowledge of the Soviet Union and that "few people could surpass him in originality and productivity of thought." Dr. Speier would be glad to talk to anyone who would like further information about this.

In view of these very strong recommendations from different sources, it seems to me that Mr. Loomis' name should be put high on the list.

cc: Mr. Dulles - CIA

PCB:WPDavison:vth

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